

ABSTRACT

A pen-based system that automatically identifies either single page or multi-page forms when data is written on paper copies of the form. The system captures pen stroke data as an untrained user fills out the paper form attached to its surface. The sequence and location of the raw pen-stroke data is analyzed to determine which form the user was filling out and which field on each page was the intended field for the subsets of stroke data. The form/field identification method allows the electronic clipboard to be used as if it were an ordinary clipboard. One of several single or multi-page forms in the selected, and attached to the clipboard without any special attention to its positioning. The user can fill out fields in any order, skipping between pages at will, leaving fields blank, etc. and having no other interaction with the clipboard.